Statement-II

State-wise number of complaints registered

Year	No. of complaints received.	Bank-wise details		
2006-07	5	SBI	—	3
		ICICI Bank	—	1
		Vijaya Bank	—	1
2007-08	14	UCO Bank	—	1
		Union Bank of India	—	2
		SBI	—	4
		Bank of Baroda	—	1
		Complaints not Specifying Bank	—	3
		Bombay Mercantile Cooperative Bank	—	1
		Canara Bank	—	1
		Bank of India	—	1
2008-09	9	Axis Bank	—	2
		HDFC	—	2
		Corporation Bank	—	1
		SBI	—	2
		Punjab National Bank	—	1
		Indusind Bank	—	1

"Payment Based Inflation Crisis"

*380. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:
SHRI KAPTAN SINGH SOLANKI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued a warning that a payment based inflation crisis could emerge in the country owing to constant rise in consumer prices;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government so far, to prevent this imminent crisis;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether it is also a fact that the RBI has suggested that food supply has to be restored to deal with the imminent crisis; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by Government so far to restore the food supply?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has not issued any warning that a payment based inflation crisis could emerge in the country owing to constant rise in consumer prices. However, in its Macroeconomic and Monetary Developments Second Quarter Review 2009-10 (October 26, 2009) RBI has observed that given the supply side sources of the emerging inflationary pressures, the policy focus needs to be directed at improving both the supply conditions and the supply chain for more efficient distribution. However, it also acknowledges that measures are already afoot to manage the supply side pressure on inflation.

The Government has taken a number of measures to improve domestic availability of essential commodities and to moderate their prices. These include:

(i) Ensuring adequate supply of foodgrains through record procurement.

(ii) Maintaining adequate public stocks of foodgrains for market intervention.

(iii) Maintaining a strategic Reserve of 5 million tonnes of wheat and rice.

(iv) Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) being increased systematically, leading to increased acreage, production, productivity and central procurement.

(v) Maintaining the Central Issue Price (CIP) for rice at Rs.5.65 per kg. for BPL and Rs.3 per kg. for AAY and wheat at Rs.4.15 per kg. for BPL and Rs.2 per kg. for AAY since July 2002 to protect the interest of families living below Poverty line (BPL) and beneficiaries of Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY).

(vi) Zero import duties for rice, wheat, pulses, edible oils (crude), sugar and maize.

(vii) Reducing import duties on refined and hydrogenated oils and vegetable oils to 7.5%.

(viii) Allowing import of raw sugar at zero duty under Open General Licence (O.G.L.) up to 31.3.2010. Import of raw sugar has been opened to private trade upto December 31, 2010, for being processed by domestic factories on job basis.

(ix) Allowing import of white/refined sugar by STC/MMTC/PEC and NAFED up to 1 million tonnes by 1.8.2009 under O.G.L. at zero duty (notified on 17.4.2009), extended upto 31.3.2010. Furthermore, the duty free import of white/refined sugar under OGL has been opened to other Central/State Governments agencies and to private trade in addition to existing designated agencies.

(x) Banning export of non basmati rice, edible oils and pulses (except kabuli chana).

(xi) Distribution of one million tonnes of imported edible oils to States/UTs at a subsidy of Rs.15/kg.

(xii) To augment availability of pulses, the Public Sector Undertakings (namely, STC, MMTC, and PEC) and NAFED permitted to import and sell pulses under a scheme and losses, if any, up to 15% are reimbursed by the Government.

(xiii) Distribution of imported pulses to State Governments for supply through PDS with a subsidy of Rs.10 per kg.

(xiv) Imposition of stock limit orders in the case of paddy, rice, pulses, sugar, edible oils, edible oilseeds upto September 30,2010.

(xv) Using minimum export price to regulate exports of onion (averaging at US $ 450 per tonne for December 2009) and basmati rice (US $ 900 per tonne).

(xvi) Banning of future trade in key essential commodities.

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WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Revival package for Air India

2772. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering a revival package for Air India;

(b) if so, what are the cash and non-cash components of such a package;

(c) whether the cash component also includes loan and equity contributions;

(d) if so, the existing guidelines for Government's loan and equity participations;

(e) whether Government also gives guarantee to Air India to enable it to raise funds from the banks and Financial Institutions (FIs); and

(f) if so, the existing guidelines regarding such guarantee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (d) The financial package including equity infusion into Air India is under examination of the Government.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. Government of India Guarantee has been extended to erstwhile Air India and erstwhile Indian Airlines for their Aircraft Acquisition programme. The guidelines for Government of India Guarantee are provided in General Financial Rules.

Membership fees of employees working in NACIL

2773. SHRI BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a demand from employees working in National Aviation Company of India Ltd. (NACIL) to stop the practice of deducting Labour Union Membership fees from their monthly salaries;

(b) if so, the action being taken by Government to stop this practice; and